



March 6, 2015

Shaun McGrath
Region VIII EPA Administration
159 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Via Facsimile: 303-312-6339

RE: Wyoming's Categorical Use Attainability Analysis for Contact Recreation use designations

Dear Administrator McGrath,

The Washakie County Conservation District (WCCD) is requesting your approval of the above referenced Categorical Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) as submitted by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ).

WCCD, as with all Wyoming Conservation Districts, are authorized by Wyo. Stat. §§ 11-16-101 et. seq., with the statutory responsibility to implement soil and water conservation projects and programs, including but not limited to, flood prevention, the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water within the district. WCCD has taken a leadership role in water quality assessment, planning and implementation for waters within WCCD's jurisdiction and have expertise of our local watershed conditions. WCCD works closely with landowners in implementing best management practices aimed towards enhancing and improving water quality, to protect human health.

WCCD was specifically involved in assisting the WDEQ in ensuring that the Categorical UAA for Contact Recreation uses was scientifically defensible, and to help ensure an accurate designation of primary and secondary contact recreation uses on Wyoming's waters. This involvement included field verification of sixteen (16) sites in Washakie County, which were selected randomly by WDEQ using their UAA Geographic Information System (GIS) model. WCCD staff, assisted by our local landowners and a local BLM employee, spent countless hours meeting with landowners to discuss access and locations and collecting field data information to validate the sites, which was accomplished between July 28, 2010 and August 20, 2010. WDEQ's Recreational Use UAA Survey Worksheet was utilized to record all of the necessary data, which was then compared to the predictions of WDEQ's GIS model. The information collected included GPS coordinates, photos, and watershed information.

208 Shiloh Road - Worland, WY - 82401
Phone: (307) 347-2456 ext. 101 - www.washakiecd.com

Working to Improve Our Quality of Life

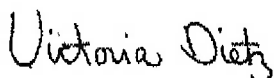
Also Included in the worksheet were questions that were answered and signed off by either the private landowner or land manager representative as follows:

- Is the survey location within a designated federal, state, or local park or recreational area?
- Is the survey location part of a lake, reservoir or other still body of water?
- Is the survey location contained within a municipality or unincorporated high density housing area.
- Is the survey location on a water that is a larger perennial stream or game fishery known to be used by sportsmen or other recreationist?
- Is the survey location either currently known to be or do you believe that it has a reasonable potential to be used for recreational activities such as fishing, swimming, floating, rafting, canoeing, or kayaking?
- Are there any schools within view of the survey location?
- Is there currently water within the surveyed stream, lake, reservoir or wetland?
- Does the survey location occur on public land?
- Are there any major recreational trails, trailheads or developed campgrounds within view of the survey location?

The WCCD believes in ensuring that those waters capable of supporting primary and secondary contact recreation uses are accurately designated so that human health is protected. As a local government primarily charged with natural resource conservation, WCCD believes the WDEQ's Categorical Use Attainment Analysis is scientifically based and defensible.

We would appreciate EPA's approval of this UAA to help Wyoming in focusing our water quality work on those priority recreational use waters.

Respectfully,



Victoria Dietz
WCCD Director

CC: Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
Wyoming Department of Agriculture